

Deborah.Easterling

238686

From: Deborah.Easterling
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2012 8:58 AM
To: 'Steve Menchinger'
Subject: RE: Letter of Protest

Dear Mr. Menchinger,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your email to the Public Service Commission. I am forwarding your email and Letter of Protest to our Clerk's Office for processing. Your email and Letter of Protest will become a part of Docket No. 2012-177-WS and will be posted on our website under this docket.

Please let me know if you should require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Deborah Easterling
Administrative Assistant

From: Steve Menchinger [mailto:smenchinger@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2012 5:14 PM
To: PSC_Contact
Subject: Letter of Protest

Please find attached my Letter of Protest regarding the Application of Tega Cay Water Service, Inc. for Adjustment of Rates and Charges (Docket # 2012-177-WS)

Thank you.

Steve Menchinger

RECEIVED

MAIL ROOM



* Required Fields

Date: * August 28, 2012

Letter of Protest
in Docket 2012 - 177 - WS

Print

Email

Protestant Information:

Name * Steve Menchinger

Mailing Address * 4171 Marquesas Ave

City, State Zip * Tega Cay, SC 29708 Phone * 803-396-2703

E-mail smenchinger@gmail.com

1. What is your connection or interest in this case? * For example, are you a customer of the Company that is the subject of this pending proceeding? (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

I am a resident of Tega Cay SC and a customer of Tega Cay Water Service / Utilities, Inc.

2. Please give a concise statement of your protest. * (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

I do not see how a rate increase of this magnitude can be justified. The residents of Tega Cay already pay very high rates when compared to other water and sewer service areas. I re-located to Tega Cay in 2006 from West Columbia, SC and was shocked at the much higher water and sewer rates that were being charged in Tega Cay. Since that time we have seen two significant rate increases with no apparent improvement in service or quality and we are now faced with a third increase since 2006. I checked the current water and sewer rates in West Columbia and compared them to the current (and proposed) rates charged by Tega Cay Water Service. Based on the current average monthly residential usage (as reported by the Tega Cay Water Service in their Application for Adjustment of Rates and Charges - Schedule C) of 4,904 gallons per month, a Tega Cay resident currently pays a combined water and sewer bill that is 294% higher than a resident of West Columbia and if the proposed increases are approved we would pay 460% more!

The following is excerpted from the Utilities, Inc. website: "Today, Utilities, Inc. is backed by a private equity owner with extensive capital to fuel the company's continued growth. Utilities, Inc. has long believed that strong financial investment backing is the best approach for the company's solid operational stability and outstanding customer satisfaction." I say let the "private equity owner with extensive capital" pay the bill for a change!

3. Do you wish to make an appearance at a hearing in this proceeding, if scheduled, and offer sworn testimony? *

No.